

REMARKS

Claims 8, 10-14, and 16-21 are pending in the application, of which claims 8 and 19 are independent. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

An interview was conducted and distinctions between the prior art and the applicant's amended claims were discussed. Specifically, Applicants proposed amending the independent claims. As discussed during the interview, Applicants believe that the claims, as amended, are patentable.

Each of the dependent claims is also believed to define patentable features of the invention. Each dependent claim partakes of the novelty of its corresponding independent claim and, as such, has not been discussed specifically herein.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney can be reached at the address shown below. All telephone calls should be directed to the undersigned at 617-521-7896.

Applicant : Been-Yih Jin et al.
Serial No. : 10/081,992
Filed : February 21, 2002
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Attorney's Docket No.: 10559-587001 / P12768

Please apply any fees or credits due in this case to Deposit Account 06-1050 referencing

Attorney Docket No. 10559-587001.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 2, 2004



Paul A. Pysher
Reg. No. 40,780

Attorneys for Intel Corporation
Fish & Richardson P.C.
225 Franklin Street
Boston, MA 02110-2804
Telephone: (617) 542-5070
Facsimile: (617) 542-8906

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